

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 01690 041441Z

46

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02

COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEAE-00

ACDA-19 AEC-11 TRSE-00 CG-00 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04

INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-03 CEA-02 OIC-04 ARA-16

EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 DRC-01 /280 W

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O 041400Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0070

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED INTERIM LEGISLATION ON DEEP SEABED
MINING AND 200-MILE FISHERIES ZONE

REF STATE 193106

1. AS DEPT AWARE, GOSL ALREADY CLAIMS 200-MILE TERRITORIAL
SEA, ALTHOUGH INDICATIONS ARE IT IS PREPARED RESCIND
LEGISLATION IN FAVOR OF 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA PLUS
200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE AND CONFORM TO THAT PATTERN IF
LOS CONFERENCE PRODUCES DRAFT TREATY SPECIFYING THAT
RESULT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY ESTIMATES THAT UNILATERAL
US LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING 200-MILE FISHING ZONE,
WHILE NOT GOING AS FAR AS PRESENT GOSL CLAIM, COULD
WELL INDUCE GOSL TO STICK TO PRESENT POSITION, PARTI-
CULARLY IF ANY SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF OTHER COASTAL STATES
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MOVE TO EXTEND THEIR OWN CLAIMS. GOSL IS BASICALLY

FOLLOWER RATHER THAN LEADER IN LDC WORLD BUT PLACES
STRONG EMPHASIS ON ALIGNING ITSELF WITH DOMINANT LDC
CONSENSUS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. ANY SWING TOWARD CLAIMS
TO GREATER COASTAL STATE SOVEREIGNTY OUT TO 200 MILES
THEREFORE LIKELY UNDERCUT CHANCES GOSL WILL IN
FACT BACK OFF PRESENT POSITION.

2. WITH REGARD DEEP SEABED MINING BILL, EMBASSY
BELIEVES THAT GOSL LIKELY EITHER TO CONSIDER THIS IN
VERY NEGATIVE LIGHT AS UNDUE PRESSURE TACTIC IN ONGOING
NEGOTIATIONS OR TO SEE IT AS INSTIGATED IN INTERESTS OF
LARGE, TECHNICALLY ADVANCED US FIRMS SEEKING GRAB DEEP
SEABED RESOURCES BEFORE DEEP SEABED REGIME PROTECTING
INTERESTS OF LDC'S CAN BE ESTABLISHED. WHILE LOGIC OF
LATTER POSITION DOUBTFUL IN VIEW CONDITIONS IN BILL,
GOSL PREDISPOSITION IS NONETHELESS TO THINK WORST OF
ECONOMIC INTENTION OF DC'S AND ENACTMENT OF BILL SEEMS
LIKELY MERELY TO UNDERLINE AND PROVIDE QTE PROOF UNQTE
OF INGRAINED SUSPICIONS.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SEABED, FISHERIES, MINING, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974FREETO01690
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740244-1122
From: FREETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740977/aaaacmzj.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 193106
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by shawdg>; RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED INTERIM LEGISLATION ON DEEP SEABED MINING AND 200-MILE FISHERIES ZONE
TAGS: PLOS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005